

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Over-current protection is accomplished in an output transistor (MP) of an electronic circuit wherein an input signal ( $V_{\text{gatedrive}}$ ) is applying to a first conductor (19) coupled to a gate of the output transistor to cause an output current ( $I_{\text{out}}$ ) to flow through the output transistor and an output terminal (11) of the electronic circuit. A limit voltage ( $V_{\text{LIMIT}}$ ) who is applied to an input (21) of a voltage clamping circuit (18) to cause a clamping current to flow in the first conductor (19) as needed to prevent the magnitude of the input signal ( $V_{\text{gatedrive}}$ ) from being less than the magnitude of the limit voltage ( $V_{\text{LIMIT}}$ ) so that the output current ( $I_{\text{out}}$ ) is limited to a maximum current limit determined by the limit voltage ( $V_{\text{LIMIT}}$ ). A control signal ( $I_{\text{LIMIT}}/n$ ) is applied to an input of a current-to-voltage conversion circuit (20) to cause the current-to-voltage conversion circuit to produce the limit voltage ( $V_{\text{LIMIT}}$ ), which is applied to an emitter of a first transistor (Q1) having a collector in base connected to a bias current source (I1). The resulting voltage on a base of the first transistor is applied to a base of a second transistor (Q2), and the input signal ( $V_{\text{gatedrive}}$ ) is applied to the first conductor (19).